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Weekend Weather

Saturday - 59° F
Sunday - 53° F
Few Showers

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THE ROMULUS ROMAN

Vol. 5, No. 44

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Crime report yields mixed bag of results

Molly Tippen
Staff Writer

Crime is going up in some categories but down in others in Romulus.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation released its annual "Crime in the United States" report for cities with more than 10,000 residents last month. The report is compiled using statistics sent in by police agencies and can help identify a number of trends in a given community.

Eight categories of crime are tracked: murder or manslaughter, forcible rape, robbery, larceny, auto theft, aggravated assault,

arson and property crimes.

Charles Kirby, Romulus public safety director, said he's not alarmed by the statistics, but is not completely satisfied, either.

"Of course you're never happy about the ones that go up, but you're pleased about the ones that go down," he said. "There are so many factors that go into this, and we didn't see any major increases, which is good. The increases we did have are fairly in line with the national average, which is also a good indicator."

In the murder and manslaughter category, the city saw three incidents in 2004, versus none in 2003. Kirby said there is generally

little a police agency can do to curb those deaths.

"They are crimes of passion, and there's only so much you can do to prevent that," he said.

There also increases in forcible rapes, which are up from 15 in 2003 to 21 in 2004, and aggravated assaults, which are up from 86 in 2003 to 103 in 2004. Aggravated assaults include crimes where violence is targeted toward a person - ranging from a bar fight to a beating.

Robberies - where something is taken from someone using force by another - remained virtually flat from 2003 to 2003, with 32 and 34 recorded, respectively.

But other crimes in the city that can rise or fall based on the level of enforcement in the community have fallen in Romulus. Property crimes have especially bucked the odds, despite many new building projects that could be targeted by would-be vandals.

From 2003 to 2004, property crimes have fallen by 171 instances to 1,144 in 2004. Kirby said better targeting of patrols to areas that might have some trouble has had a drastic effect in the city.

"It's really what we would do for anything that's happening in

See Crime, page 3

City election scheduled this Tuesday

Molly Tippen
Staff Writer

Officials want to remind every registered voter in Romulus that the Nov. 8 contest is likely to be pivotal for the city.

City Clerk Linda Choate said the 18 city precincts would open at 7 a.m. and close at 8 p.m. Residents will know which precinct to vote at by looking at their registration cards. All 17,000 voters will be asked for identification before voting, Choate said.

"People should come to the polls with some form of ID so we can verify their name and address," she said. "Often times, people will come to the wrong polls - the list election workers have only has the names of the people who are supposed to vote at that precinct - and they will need to come to the clerk's office so we can resolve the situation."

This year, voters will be selecting a mayor, a treasurer and all seven city council seats. Choate was also up for re-election, but not challenged for her position.

Turnout is expected to be light because it is not a presidential election, but considerably higher than the 2,000 voters that turned out for the Aug. 13 primary.

"I think we will have more, certainly, than we did for the primary," Choate said. "I would be thrilled to see 5,000 people come out, but we will likely get about

See Vote, page 3



Happy hauntings

Halloween has become something of an obsession for Romulus residents Steve and Lisa Toby. The couple has spent their own time and money converting their garage and lawn into a haunted house and cemetery for the past 11 years. They welcomed candy-seekers to their lair Monday night. "We really enjoy doing this for the kids," said Lisa Toby. "It takes about a month to go up, and every year, it gets a little bigger and better." The cemetery (above) is complete with headstones for Jason Voorhees, Hannibal the Cannibal, Michael Myers and Dracula. The Tobys also hope trick-or-treaters will not lose their heads over the guillotine, or Frankenstein's laboratory. Every detail has been meticulously addressed, including skulls (right) attached to the banister, and a fog machine for maximum effect.



Police chief back at the station house

Molly Tippen
Staff Writer

After a health scare put him out of commission for a couple of weeks, Romulus Public Safety Director Charles Kirby recently returned to work to oversee the 60-employee department. Kirby, 57, collapsed at the station house in September.

"I feel really good right now.

The only puzzling thing is that we never really found out why this happened," he said. "I did get to have a complete work up, though, and you usually don't get to have that unless something is really wrong. I'm just happy to get back to my normal activities."

Kirby collapsed at 11:30 a.m. Sept. 23 and was transported to the University of Michigan Hospital in Ann Arbor. After a

battery of tests - and a little bit of time off - he was given the go-ahead to return to work by his physician.

Lt. John Leacher, who acted as chief of police in Kirby's absence, said he was in regular contact with Kirby.

"I know not being at work was hard for him. I think he would

See Chief, page 3

That's the spirit

School event teaches valuable lesson

Andrea King
Staff Writer

Samantha Stewart, a third-grader at Tyler Elementary in Belleville, was smiling as she talked about school spirit week, an event that let her have fun and take home an important lesson: just say no to drugs.

"This week helps to remind us to never take drugs or other bad things from people," Stewart, dressed in red from head to toe, said.

And that's the whole point of the Red Ribbon week that took place at the school Oct. 24-28, according to Manda Puttock, program coordinator and parent teacher organization (PTO) volunteer.

"It's a big kick-off for the year to help students think that drugs are not something they want to be doing," she said. "Now is the time to hit the children up about choices on drugs. We're really pushing it this year."

To help students make good life and behavior decisions, the program is designed to give healthy choices and alternatives through positive activities instead of drugs. The school did so by hosting different theme days: kick-off day, when students received a wristband to wear all week and pledge to be drug free; team up against drugs, when students wore their favorite sports clothes and team uniforms; wear red day; put a cap on drugs, during which students wore hats and 'drugs and I don't match day', when students wore mismatched clothes.

"This gives the children the power of choice when it comes to preventing them to use drugs and making good choices in the world," said Pottock. "This is our chance to give them ideas to do on their own. We only have them for so many hours a day before they go home to their different environments. We want them to realize who they can talk to if issues come up or if they are dealing with it at home already. It opens those doors for them to

talk about it."

Like so many other schools around the area and country, Tyler has been hosting this program for about 10 years now, which principal Peggy Voigt said has been a weeklong event of good resources.

"The kids get all excited about the activities, but it's also an important time because the students don't do the D.A.R.E. program until the fifth grade and in some cases that could be too late," she said. "This gives the idea that there's a culture out there that is free of drugs; there are other good things out there."

Ann Holub, a PTO president and mother, said the red ribbon week is a great way to encourage students to live a healthy lifestyle, which she can see in her own children who attend the school.

"My third grader is very excited and involved and wants to participate every day," she said. "My oldest is not as into it, but you can still see some enthusiasm. It's really something for the entire community."

Children also pledged pennies for drug prevention in each grade level. The grade who has generated the most money at the end will receive a grade level party.

Students Jennifer Paulk and Jeremy Duvall said they learned, while having fun in the process, to never do drugs.

"I learned to never take drugs because it might have some kind of alcohol in it that could turn your lungs black," said Paulk. "I have been sharing the different things I learned at home and with other people, too."

"Peer pressure is everywhere and it starts in elementary school. We're just giving some ideas on how to be leaders instead of followers," said Pottock.

"I've had several kids in the past come back to me and say they've been confronted with a situation and have said no or told someone else to say no," she added. "Kids remember this especially when it's a positive week. These are things they can use all year round."

Airport expansion could bring jobs

Andrea King
Staff Writer

The Wayne County Airport Authority recently revealed proposed updates to the master plan that include a runway expansion at the Willow Run Airport.

Van Buren Township residents and officials have questioned the benefits of the project, but Sean Brosnan, director of Willow Run Airport, said the plans will create more international and home-based business but also expand services.

"We will continue to see what we're currently seeing now and that's globalization. This will make us competitive in the region by getting the products we make here to our market," he said. "Our job is to continue to make Michigan a great place to do business."

Other benefits, he said, include 1,500 jobs-880 of which would be local. The plan would bring in \$85 million in local income and airport activity that generates more than \$16 million in state sales tax and \$3 million in income tax.

The airport concept plan would lengthen the east-west runways to about 2,300 feet. It would also close down the existing east-west runway on Tyler Road.

Brosnan presented the plans to the Van Buren Township Board of Trustees recently, just three weeks after hosting a

public meeting for input on the airport upgrades.

"We've been working with the townships on the economic developmental issues. It's a Van Buren and Canton friendly plan," he said. "We also looked at the current flight plan to see what works there and what we really need."

But with the close residential proximity, noise control issues have come about along with other environmental issues. Cindy King, supervisor of Van Buren Township, said noise seems to be the number one resident concern.

"I don't know if there will be a whole lot of impact," she said. "Now, it's in its infancy and I think there's a whole lot more steps that have to take place to make sure the township is protected."

"They have said the benefits are to create less noise and create more jobs in the area, which is a good thing," she added. "We have to see if it is viewed favorably by the FAA (Federal Aviation Administration) and as it flushes out the devils in the detail."

Brosnan said the next steps will be a noise study, environmental assessment and several public hearings before the actual approval by the FAA will even take place.

"We think it's a good project to help Michigan continue to compete in the future," he said.



Tyler Elementary School turned their school spirit week into red ribbon week where they learned to say no to drugs. One activity included the pennies for prevention program where students from each grade level pledged money for drug prevention. Kindergartener Rachel Kramer, first grader Shaka Brown, third grader Samantha Stewart and fourth grader Adam Overholt were some of the many students who participated.

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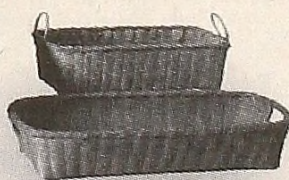
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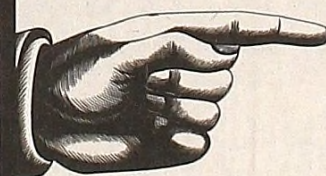
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Communicating well

Consulteens, a consulting firm founded by 1995 Romulus High School graduate Rogett Peterson, recently presented a youth empowerment program to high school students. The firm helps students develop career skills and self-awareness through training, education, and mentorship. Subjects addressed by many guest speakers included credit and finance, physical and emotional health, goal setting and the importance of education. Here, Peterson (far right) took a break from the presentation with high school counselor LaToya Shackelford (far left) and Consulteens associate Becky Demorest (center).

Vote

FROM PAGE 1

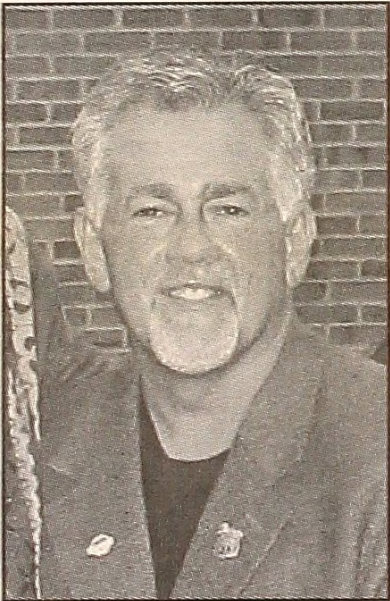
4,000 voters. Ideally, we'd like to see every registered voter come to the polls, but they don't even do that for a presidential election."

In the last presidential election, more than 10,000 residents voted, Choate said.

Leading up to the election, a flurry of campaign activities have taken place for a final push on behalf of the two mayoral candidates. Incumbent Mayor Alan Lambert is looking to hold onto his office after a successful first term. Challenger Debbie Romak, after serving as a council member for 12 years, is also campaigning for the mayoral spot.

In the contest for treasurer, incumbent Pamela Kersey will face off with Larry Moore, a former city employee who worked in the treasurer's office.

All incumbent council mem-



Alan Lambert

bers — Randolph Gear, Leroy Burcroff, William Wadsworth, William Crova, Michael Prybyla and Charles Miller — are seeking to retain their seats. Romak gave up her council seat in her bid to become mayor.

Incumbent council members will face: Ellen Craig-Bragg, John Barden, Harry Crout, Neima White, Ed Buczkowski,



Debbie Romak

Rodney Pennington, Stephen Lewkowicz and Leo Knasiak.

Voter registration for the election ended on Oct. 10. Residents with questions about the election are asked to call the Romulus City Clerk's Office at (734) 942-7540. The clerk's office is located at City Hall, 11111 Wayne Road, and is open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Schools win national awards for programs

Molly Tippen
Staff Writer

Romulus Community Schools won big at the Michigan Association of School Boards (MASB) leadership conference in Lansing on Oct. 29.

That's because the three district programs won an Eddy Trophy — the highest honors for innovativeness in education. The schools will also receive \$1,000 to help fund the programs in the future.

The winning programs will be submitted to the National Association of School Boards spring conference for nationwide competition with programs from all 50 states, said district spokesman Dick Kruse.

Superintendent of Schools Joel Carr said the awards have been a shot in the arm for the staff at three district schools.

"These MASB awards have brought a great deal of positive recognition to the Romulus Community Schools and the entire Romulus Community," he said.

The three programs that received awards include the "Body Phonics" program, which won in the At-Risk category. Body Phonics was created by Wick Elementary teacher Chris Consales to help students develop reading skills. The program helps students associate sounds with hand movements. Teachers have measured the results of the

program by testing students at pre-determined intervals, and they have recorded significant progress, according to Consales.

Senior projects also garnered recognition at the conference. Senior projects are community-based efforts created and completed by high school seniors to help the students develop social awareness. Each student will organize a project and then present their findings on a social issue to other students, parents, community members, professionals and their teachers. That program was originated by Romulus High School Principal Dan Hurst and is overseen by language arts teachers Serena Kessler and Jamie Wukie.

The STEP (Students and teachers Exercising with Pedometers) won a Health and Safety Award. That program encourages exercise and healthy eating habits by keeping track of how much a student walks with a pedometer (a measuring device that is worn on the wrist). After a student has reached certain benchmarks, they receive rewards. According to Barth gym teacher Sheila Stasak, the program also helped develop math skills when students calculate their miles.

The national program will be held this spring in Washington, D.C. Schools Curriculum Director Tom Dolan said he hopes the schools are victorious then.

Chief - 'I feel really good right now'

FROM PAGE 1

followed, stretched department resources, police said.

A 10-year employee of the city, Kirby's police career goes back to 1969. He retired from the Ypsilanti Police Department in 1996 as deputy chief. Prior to working in Ypsilanti, he was a public safety officer at Eastern Michigan University.

City officials and members of the department were happy to see Kirby return as well, said Mayor Alan Lambert.

"We're just happy to have him back," he said.

have come back immediately if her could have," Leacher said before a recent city council meeting.

Kirby oversees both the police department and the 18-employee fire department. Events leading up to his collapse were by anyone's estimates daunting — a five-alarm fire destroyed the EQ Resource Recovery Plant on Van Born Road in August. That incident, and the investigation that

Crime - Property crimes down, others increase

FROM PAGE 1

our community, but for these type of crimes, visibility is very important. I'm not sure that any patrols would have too much of an effect because even if it's a vacant field, we still need have to patrol it."

Burglary is down from 2003, when 282 took place. In 2004, 246 were recorded. Larceny saw a significant downgrade from 743 in 2003 to 645 in 2004. Auto theft also declined by 37 incidents in 2004, to 253.

Cases of arson fell by more than half from 16 in 2003 to only seven in 2004.

Personnel levels in the department have remained stable and are in part responsible for the decreases Kirby said.

"We still have a few people who have retired that we are working to replace, but we haven't lost anyone in terms of our numbers," he said. "We've been able to keep those levels where they've typically be at."

About 1,000 home are slated for construction in Romulus during the next five years, but Kirby is not saying whether he thinks more officers will be needed. "It's too early to say what we'll need," he said. "I don't think that because we'll have more residents that it automatically means we'll need more police."

All FBI Uniform Crime Reports can be accessed on the web at www.fbi.gov.

FBI "Part One" Crime by type

	2004	2003
Murder/manslaughter	3	0
Forcible rape	21	15
Robbery	34	32
Aggravated assault	103	86
Property crimes	1,144	1,315
Burglary	246	282
Larceny	645	743
Theft	253	290
Arson	7	16

*Source: The Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Romulus Police Department

Beautiful music

Virtuoso cellist returns to perform with Plymouth Symphony Orchestra

Jason Carmel Davis
Staff Writer

A former Plymouth resident is coming home to show off his skills with the Plymouth Symphony Orchestra (PSO).

The second concert of the season, "Made in America," will honor the musical heritage of the United State. Cellist Norman Fischer has been invited and is coming home as guest soloist.

Fischer has collaborated with pianist Jeanne Kierman as the Fischer Duo, serving twice as United States Artistic Ambassadors. Recitals of unaccompanied cello works have received solid reviews from the New York Times for his New York debut

recital of the complete Bach Suites.

Fischer has served on the faculty of Dartmouth College and the Oberlin Conservatory of Music. He is currently Professor of Violoncello at the Shepherd School of Music at Rice University in Houston. He has also taught at the Tanglewood Music Center in Boston.

Fischer grew up in Plymouth, and his family was very active with the Plymouth Symphony. He later went on to co-found the Concord String Quartet and received a Naumburg Chamber Music Award, several Grammy nominations and an Emmy Award.

When he was in high school, Fischer played with the PSO in the



Norman Fischer



Joan Tower

cello section. He also played concerto in 1971 and the late 1980s.

"There are so many wonderful people in Plymouth, from family friends to people I knew when I was growing up," Fischer said. "It's always a great feeling to go back there and play in front of all those people."

Fischer said he is looking forward to the performance. He also

said he can't wait to get home.

Along with Fischer, composer Joan Tower will be in attendance to hear the Detroit Metro area premiere of her new work Made in America, a consortium commission organized by the American Symphony Orchestra League, of which the Plymouth Symphony is a part.

The other major work is Dvorak's Cello Concerto, which was written during the composer's stays in Iowa. Bookends of the program are Percy Grainger's setting of an American folk "sea chanty" Spoon River, and Morton Gould's Pavanne from his An American Salute, which includes variations on "When Johnny Comes Marching Home Again."

The show is set for 8 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 12 at Our Lady of Good Counsel Church, located at 47650 N. Territorial Road in Plymouth. Tickets are \$17 for adults, \$15 for seniors, and free for children up to the 12th grade.

To highlight the celebration of the 60th anniversary of the symphony, a homecoming alumni reunion reception is planned for all former musicians, volunteers, donors, board, league, staff, and audience members at the Plymouth Historical Museum from 5:30-7 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 12.

For more information or to purchase tickets, please contact (734) 451-2112, by fax at (734) 451-3458, or email at info@plymouthsymphony.org.

Nan Washburn directs the Orchestra Canton musicians during the 'Jazz and Jeans' concert last week. The casually-dressed audience applauded the concert at the Village Theatre at Cherry Hill.



Orchestra Canton expands season

Summer is over, and Canton is falling back in the swing of things.

Orchestra Canton gave the first concert of the 2005 season Saturday under Music Director and Conductor Nan Washburn.

The "Jazz and Jeans," program met with great applause from the appreciative and casually dressed crowd at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill. The program featured several jazz classics, including favorites from Duke Ellington and Dave Brubeck.

Orchestra Canton began the season with a pre-concert party, sponsored by Huntington Bank, which bought the entire house a drink at intermission.

With support like that, the orchestra isn't done yet. In fact, they've expanded the season this year to five concerts, up from only three performances last year.

The next concert takes place at 4 p.m.

Nov. 20 at the Village Theater: "Peter and The Wolf," and other family favorites will be narrated by a "special surprise guest," according to organizers.

Concert tickets may be purchased in advance at the Summit on the Park, located at 46000 Summit Parkway; by calling the Summit at (734) 394-5460; or at the Village Theater box office one hour before each performance.

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Novel attraction

Area librarians praise new 'visual novels'

Kevin Hill
Staff Writer

Five years ago, students were hard pressed to find any graphic novels on school library shelves.

Today, they still are—because they're all checked out.

"They are a phenomenal hit," said Catherine Diefenbacher, head librarian at John Marshall Middle School in Westland. "The kids love them. I can't keep them on the shelves. I wish I had money to buy more."

Diefenbacher's account is typical among area educators and librarians, who find themselves receiving constant demands from students for the emerging genre.

Graphic novels, also called "visual novels" to avoid the connotation of explicit content, might best be described as a lengthy, more complex cousin to the traditional comic book. A relatively recent literary development, the term "graphic novel" was popularized in the late 70s when the paperback version of Will Eisner's *A Contract With God* was published. The genre continues to be loosely defined and debatable. But generally, the books contain more real-life situations, in-depth characters and substantive plotlines than tradi-

tional superhero comics. Many graphic novels have achieved broader literary recognition: Art Spiegelman, for instance, won a Pulitzer Prize for his *Maus* series, about the Holocaust, in 1992.

Public libraries have included must-haves such as *Maus* and *A Contract With God* for some time in their collections. The Canton Public Library lists more than 1,200 books that either concern graphic novels or are graphic novels themselves.

School libraries have responded in particular to demand for Japanese manga, a similar visual medium. Diefenbacher received her first batch of manga books three years ago, when Bill Swartz, director of media services for Wayne-Westland Community Schools, began pushing for more graphic novels on district library stacks.

"I knew nothing about them," said Diefenbacher. "I ordered what the kids asked me for. They were chomping at the bit waiting for them to come in."

Swartz is also the children's section librarian for the Canton Public Library, and the small number of manga books there are consistently checked out, he said.

He consulted Jill Smethers, who has owned Comic City in Canton for 12 years, when he wanted to purchase graphic novels for his district schools. To her surprise, she's become a trusted, authoritative voice when it comes to which books to offer students.

"In schools, you have to really be careful," she said. "It's a lot harder...to put graphic novels in a school library than it is a public library."

Smethers, who will speak at a regional conference for the Michigan Association for Media in Education (MAME) in January, said librarians have to approach the genre delicately. Even though a novel might deal with an important issue, she won't risk upsetting parents and schools by selling libraries books with content she deems too mature.

At her store, she pulled a copy of *Season of Myth*, part of Neil Gaiman's *Sandman* series, off the rack.

"It's where Lucifer gives up the keys to hell," she said. "Well, I think a 12th grader would...understand it. It's deep, and it's great art, and it's a great story. But it's just too much for a ninth grader. I'll put it in a public library, but not a school library."

"This is an example of one that I think can be used in teaching," she said, picking up Will Eisner's *Dropsie Avenue*. The novel depicts racial relations in an urban neighborhood over several generations. "It has subject matter that's uncomfortable, but it's educational, too," she said.

Manga books, which fill growing shares of American bookstores, seem to be getting the most attention in schools, too. Their popularity is driven partly through related animated TV imports from Japan, such as *Yu-Gi-Oh!* and *Dragon Ball Z*. One potential criticism is that manga panders to pulp interests, rather than challenging students to read traditional books.

Smethers thinks they are a more positive influence, as long

as they are introduced appropriately. She pointed out that they serve as cultural educational tools. Many of the manga books retain Japanese references and settings; and most are printed from right to left, in keeping with Japanese writing.

Still, Japanese standards for content in comics are slightly more liberal. Even with teen-oriented manga, Smethers has to watch out for books that, while rated for teens, contain provocative sexual content or language.

"If you're putting books in there to get the kids to read more, then don't put in anything that's going to get challenged," she said. "You don't want the librarians mad at you, saying 'you steered me the wrong way.'"

Smethers added that manga and graphic novels could be a gateway to more ambitious reading material.

"When school libraries add graphic novels...the rate of other books being taken out to be read increases," she said. "It's a jumping point. They're getting to read, and now they're taking out the 'regular books.' I think it's a nice tool to get them started and interested."

One thing is for sure: students

thirst for these comics is unquenchable. Susan Spaniol, media specialist at Hillside Middle School in Northville, started a manga collection in January when she bought 35 books from Smethers. Since then, they've been circulated more than 200 times.

"That section's always a big mess," said Spaniol. "For such a small book of groups to be consistently out, it's just great."

As more local librarians are buying into the idea of graphic novels, Smethers might soon be finding herself under super-hero like pressure to guide them down the right path.

"I'm a little nervous about it," she said.

"These people are looking to me to help them build their school libraries. It's a little bit harder than having a parent come in here, saying 'I really need to get my kid to read.'"

As any comic fan worth her salt knows, "with great power comes great responsibility."



Jill Smethers, owner of Comic City in Canton, has supplied graphic novels to area schools for the last three years.



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OPINION

Students should be first

Officials in the Van Buren School District have zeroed in on a proposed location for a new high school, after months of discussion that resulted from a failed bond issue.

There are a few items to bring up about the proposed sight at Sumpter and Hull roads, most notably that it is better for residents south of Van Born than it is for residents of Canton Township, which sends a few students to that district.

Not that you can fault officials for making the choice; it was the most popular among those residents that took part in the brainstorming session and it makes the most sense in terms of the future use of the land, too. In the end, officials need to please the greatest majority of their residents.

It does, though, further delineate the two school districts at a time when some Canton residents have already petitioned to have their children moved from the Van Buren to the Plymouth-Canton Community School District.

The schools issue will have to be taken into account through the planning process of large residential projects proposed for the south western portion of Canton – where students would most likely be shipped off to Van Buren.

Officials in Canton should be familiar with this kind of topic, though. They face it frequently as the 'big brother' in the Plymouth-Canton District, where their growth is supporting the bottom line for the district as it pushes for more schools to accommodate an ever-increasing student population.

Perhaps this will add fuel to those particular fights, and give the residents more ammunition to pursue their goals to switch school districts. In the end, as with the selection of the school site itself, the needs of the students should come first, no matter where they go to school.

Our choices in Romulus:

Residents of the City of Romulus should be proud that so many people sought the positions of mayor, city council member and treasurer this year, particularly because recent fiscal realities can make these positions that much more stressful.

After thoughtful analysis of each candidates' skills versus the needs of the city, we found it difficult indeed to choose the most qualified candidates for our endorsements. Romulus voters have a field of excellent candidates from which to choose.

For mayor, we feel the city would be best served by re-electing **Mayor Alan Lambert**. The mayor, in his first term in office, has a list of accomplishments that have indeed made the city a better place to live.

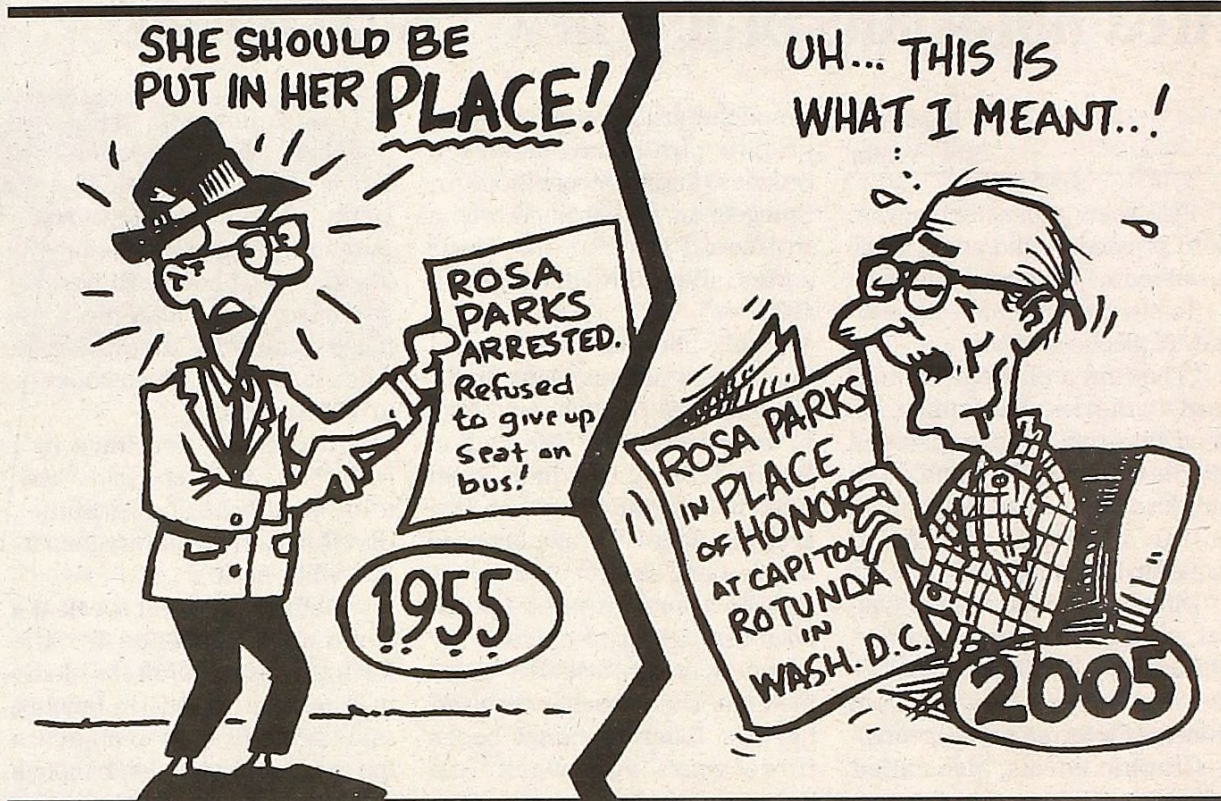
A comprehensive plan to bring casino gambling and horse racing to the city was brokered by **Lambert** and approved by voters two years ago. Four consecutive balanced budgets were negotiated without the layoffs and cuts in services that have plagued so many municipalities. And a new recreation facility is under construction without a tax increase. We would like to see this trend continue.

That being said, it's sad that council members are elected during the same year. **Lambert's** competitor, Councilwoman Debbie Romak, might have been able to hold onto her council seat had this not been the case. Romak had to give up her council seat to run for mayor, and has long been a strong advocate for the city and its residents.

For the city council, we endorse incumbents **Leroy Burcroff**, **Randy Gear**, **William Crova**, **William Wadsworth**, and **Mike Prybyla**, and challengers **Ellen Craig-Bragg** and **John Barden**.

Burcroff's knowledge of business has made him the voice of the private sector in the community, which is valuable because the city is try-

See **Choices**, page 7



Scarecrow exhibit had heart

It's not often that a first time event gets a reception as positive as the one the Festival of Scarecrows received two weeks ago in the City of Wayne.

For those who don't know, the first-time event filled Goudy Park behind Wayne City Hall. For \$20, anyone interested had a metal pole planted in the ground and two bales of hay with which to decorate a scarecrow any way they wanted and a sign to advertise themselves, their business or their department. They also manned a trick or treat path through the park while children played old-fashioned games nearby, took in a small petting farm or listened to live music.

The place was packed, too. My son, Henry, was too busy jumping in the sack race, throwing small bales of hay, playing on the swings and generally running around like a nut to pay much attention to me, other than to call out: 'Thanks for dropping by,' when I told him it was time to return to work.

The other children there were having just as much fun, I think.

It wasn't a completely smooth event, of course. Vandals frequently had their way with the poor scarecrows, busting off their heads. A helmet was stolen off one. As of last week, most had fallen into a state of disrepair; the purple and red figure put up by the Red Hat Society wore a cheerful expression

on her face that belied the unusual angle at which her arm hung after someone did her bodily harm. The only one that stood unscathed was a bright red figure of the King of rock 'n' roll himself, Elvis Presley, put up by the Wayne Chamber of Commerce.

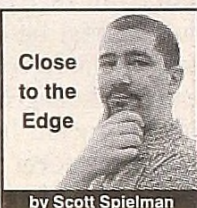
Hopefully, though, these difficulties won't hinder the return of this event next year. Kids will be kids and jerks will be jerks. It's still a worthwhile thing to do. Everyone had fun while it lasted and, even in their later states, the scarecrows still drew some additional people into the park at all times of the day.

That's the important thing, I think. It shows that the city administration – here the parks and recreation department – is always looking for new things to bring to town, new family-oriented events to put on, new ways to appeal to different people.

It's cool; it fosters the sense of community that everyone talks about – that small town feel that everyone seems to love.

Hopefully, the city will bring the event back next year and it will be better than ever, with more scarecrows to look at and just as many unique activities.

It's certainly worth the effort – no matter what the vandals and other jerks do or say.



Close to the Edge

by Scott Spielman

Shame on the stay-at-homes

Officials in the Van Buren Public Schools deserve high praise for the process they've endured regarding the bond issue for a new Belleville High School. The residents—on the other hand—are a different story.

Not to criticize the people who did actually participate in the procedure-good for them-but for the people who didn't attend any of the public site selection meetings, call the information hotline, or voice any of their concerns or opinions to the school administration through the website, shame on you. I say that because they are most likely the same voters who turned down last year's bond issue.

According to the results from the first four public meetings, only a few more than 100 people responded about which site they would like to see chosen for the new high school. That's not only adding in the number of people from the meetings, but also taking into account the people who responded through email and the bond hotline.

Then, just to give the residents further opportunity to voice their opinions, two more additional public meetings were scheduled. They didn't draw a big turnout, either.

Although many people have said they were happy with the turnout, to me, it was extremely disappointing.

Throughout the process, I've heard school administrators talk repeatedly about how they left certain enhancements off the proposal, like the technology upgrades and additional work that could be done on the middle schools because of last year's bond defeat.

I've also heard that residents from Canton Township who attend the Van Buren Public Schools are frustrated, too. They seem to be worried about the location (southeast corner of Sumpter and Hull roads) of the new high school because they say it is too far from their homes. But once again, I emphasize the lack of public participation in the site selection. Where were all the Canton residents during the public process?

If you were one of those people who attended as many site meetings as possible and made sure to let your voice be heard, then this column is not directed at you, but if you were one who complained about the location and cost of the project and sat back during these past few months and said nothing, then this is for you.

Of course, everybody knows the old saying "you can't please them all," but I believe you can please the people who at least take part in the planning process. However, the true test will be at the polls in February.



King's Court

by Andrea King

JOURNAL

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No tricks, all treats

Little goblins and ghouls of Van Buren Township came out to township hall last week for Halloween tricks and treats. Children of all ages—like Joel Testorelli, Spencer Good, Scott Testorelli and Darin Good—came dressed in their favorite costumes to go trick or treating from room to room at the township hall.

Choices

FROM PAGE 6

ing to attract more businesses.

Gear – the current mayor pro-tem – has proven that his knowledge of city politics and ability to look at all sides of the issues council must deal with is indispensable.

Wadsworth, on his own time, has shown that he is willing to take initiative regarding issues that might fall through the cracks. He has spearheaded the movement to build a new animal shelter, and has raised more than \$65,000 to meet that goal.

Longtime Councilman **Prybyla** is not often vocal at council meetings but has served as the body’s planning liaison to help make sure the goals of the city master plan are enforced, and that building projects meet requirements.

Crova – a former business owner – possesses the ability to look at the city through the eyes of an entrepreneur, and has often given council food for thought about the role of small business in the city.

Challengers **Craig-Bragg** and **Barden** got our vote because they, of all the other candidates, best expressed the needs and desires of residents. Both longtime residents with connections to the county and the school system, **Craig-Bragg** and **Barden** are interested creating stronger ties between the city and the school system. Both also promised they would make sure the city efforts to attract business is in line with resident’s wishes – there is such a thing as good development and bad development.

A word about Charles Miller, the only incumbent we did not endorse. Miller has often been a dissenting voice on council – and it’s good to have those.

But he refused to take part in any interviewing processes with this newspaper. He also resigned – then rescinded that resignation in 2004. He chose to leave his position at a time when things weren’t going his way, and even though he decided to stay on, we have no idea what he would do or what he stands for if he were re-elected.

For treasurer, we chose incumbent **Pamela Morrison-Kersey**. She has introduced new programs to make it easier for residents to pay taxes, like paying by credit card, and has plans to unveil more services. We would like to see her have a chance to continue to revamp that office during the next four years.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN
Public Hearing

Recreation Committee

Tuesday, November 8, 2005
at 7:30 p.m.
in the Denton Room

Public Hearing seeking public input on
Parks and Recreation Master Plan

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In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, reasonable accommodations will be made available with advance notice.

For more information, please call the Community Service’s office 734.699.8926

Publish: November 3, 2005

Are you volunteering
to become a victim?



by Jerry Stanecki

Addicted to misery? Are you volunteering to be a victim?

“I just can’t seem to break out of feeling so crummy,” Mary said the other day. Frustration evident in my friend’s voice.

“Living today is just so stressful, so hard,” she explained, “I don’t have time for anything.”

“Do you think you might be caught in your own trap? I asked. “Are you volunteering to be a victim?”

“What do you mean?” She looked at me strangely.

I explained that for a lot of years, I had kept myself locked in a struggle. I wanted to be happy, free from stress but really didn’t know how. The more I tried to force situations, the more frustrated I became. Finally, the realization came that the only way my life would get better was if I made it better.

Look at it this way. We all really live alone in the house we call “us”. If there’s something interfering with happiness the only way it’s going to change is if we change it ourselves. In this case, bend over, pick up the brush and put it away. You have to take the action.

To do the work, to free myself of stress, I had to understand what was wrong in my life. I call those “old pictures”—unhealthy old pictures that steal my peace and happiness. Old pictures that say worry, do more, don’t take care of yourself, run harder, faster... stress-stress-stress.

“You worry and complain about being lonely,” I said to Mary, “and how you want a relationship with a man right now.”

“I’m not complaining,” she said, “I’m just—

“What’s wrong with complaining?” I asked interrupting her.

“It’s negative.”

“So? There’s nothing wrong with complaining. The old picture says if you complain its bad. The new picture for me is complain and change. You want a relationship now, go find one.”

“It’s not that easy,” Mary said.

“Then why not let your new picture say, ‘I choose to believe I am not in a relationship now because I have work to do on the relationship with myself’.”

When we accept that we’re lonely and want a relationship to eliminate that loneliness, we take a positive step. When we truly feel that we really don’t need a relationship to be happy, we change the old “needy” picture to a positive. We stop volunteering to stay miserable.

Choose to believe that when you are ready for a loving relationship, it will happen. Choose to believe that now you are working on making your relationship with you more loving.

Change is scary because we are forced to do things that we don’t really want to do.

But then—there’s no reward without change.

Readers save \$4.50 on Jerry’s latest book, “Life is a Joke and God Wrote it!” Regularly \$19.50, but it’s \$15 if you clip this portion of the column and send \$15 to P.O. Box 121, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48303. To receive a weekly proactive thought from Jerry send your email address through www.jerrystanecki.com.

CITY OF ROMULUS
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Sealed Bids will be received in the office of the City Clerk, 11111 Wayne Road, Romulus, Michigan 48174-1485 until 2:00 p.m. Prevailing Eastern Time on November 18, 2005. Bids will be opened at 2:15 p.m. on November 18, 2005 in the City of Romulus Community Room. (lower level).

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Publish: November 3, 2005
November 10, 2005

CITY OF ROMULUS
REQUEST TO RECEIVE BIDS
BID 05/06-19 FURNITURE FOR SENIOR CENTER

The City of Romulus, Michigan is seeking bids from qualified vendors for the above items.

- (1) Qualified individuals and firms wishing to submit bids must do so on forms provided by the City. Bid forms and specifications may be obtained from Lynn A. Conway, Purchasing Coordinator, 11111 Wayne Road, Romulus, Michigan, by calling (734) 955-4568 or by Emailing: Iconway@ci.romulus.mi.us
- (2) Bids must be submitted in sealed envelopes and returned to the City Clerk’s Office no later than 10:00am, Tuesday, November 15, 2005. At that time said bids would be publicly opened and read.

BID ENVELOPES MUST BE ADDRESSED:
CITY OF ROMULUS CLERK’S OFFICE
BID 05/06-19 - Furniture for Senior Center
11111 Wayne Road, Romulus, Michigan

- (3) The right is reserved to reject any and all bids and proposals and to waive technicalities.

Publish: November 3, 2005

Celebrate the season...

Annual Northville Holiday Home Tour is next week

Scott Spielman
Editor

Shari Peters, executive director of the Northville Community Foundation, said it's never difficult to find decorators willing to take part in the annual Holiday Home Tour.

"Usually, they come to us," she said.

One of the largest fundraisers for the foundation, the home tour will take place this year from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Nov. 11-12. It's the eighth time the foundation has sponsored the popular fundraiser, which generates donations for the many endowment funds overseen by the foundation.

"It helps us with our grant money, which we dole out in December," Peters said. In the past, the foundation has used funds from the home tour to support groups and events like the anti-smoking program at Northville middle schools, the senior citizen prescription drug program, D.A.R.E., S.A.D.D., the senior citizen food program and more.

The fundraiser pairs up area interior designers with Northville homeowners to provide interior design tips for the upcoming holiday season. It typically includes five upscale houses but this year will feature six, according to Peters, including a first for the tour – a thoroughly unique model home constructed by the Mocer Development Co.

"We normally don't do model homes, but this was such an exclusive opportunity," she said.

That home highlights the customized theme of the tour. The exterior resembles a huge rustic hunting lodge, but the interior includes all the modern amenities a homeowner would want, including a full bar and miniature kitchen in the lower level – even a dedicated gift-wrapping room. Even with those features, though, the landscaping may steal the show. Backed into the corner of cul-de-sac, the home abuts a large berm, but the



Francine Laenen will transform this 4,500 square foot home into a Christmas wonderland for the annual Northville Community Foundation Home Tour. The kitchen is large enough for several chefs and the first-floor powder room is a must-see according to foundation executive director Shari Peters.

builder didn't let that take anything away from the yard. The back yard features a tiered waterfall with tables and chairs set out at different heights along the slope and the front yard, with a running stream collecting in a small pond, is nearly as impressive.

"We felt as a bonus home our guests would truly enjoy it," Peters said. "This house has been referred to as the next generation style of home."

Corrine Yoho, of Changing Seasons of Northville will give that home its holiday touches.

Other homes include: a 4,500-

square foot home that mixes the French countryside with European touches. The kitchen is large enough for a dozen chefs to work side by side and the first floor powder room is a must see, Peters said. Interior decorator Francine Laenen will transform the home in to a holiday showcase.

The second home is a traditional home with clean-cut lines, filled with warm colors. It features a floor to ceiling fireplace in the great room and a view of a man-made lake from virtually every room, according to Peters. Jackie Schwartz of Home

Accessory Warehouse in Walled Lake will transform the home into a winter wonderland.

The third house is a traditional home with eclectic décor. Each room has its own theme, but is still connected with the next. It features a lower level party area with a bar and a dance floor and a room for children decorated in a Curious George theme.

"The openness of the house lends itself to great entertaining," Peters said.

David McKnight owner of Emerald City Designs has tackled this project, along with Judy Morrocco. A long-time contribu-

tor to the home tour, McKnight said it's always a fascinating process.

"You meet with the client and get a sense of their style and go from there," he said.

In the home, participants will see a wide variety of decorations, from the Tuscan-themed items in the kitchen to a wildlife theme in the den, where decorative birds nest in a tree highlighted by bright Toile-patterned ribbons that spring from existing decorations.

"The key is to have a lot of dif-

See Homes, page 11



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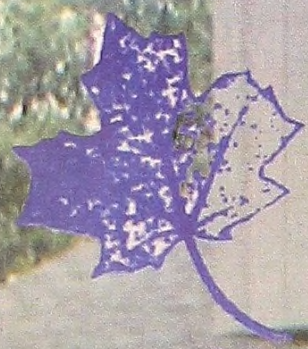
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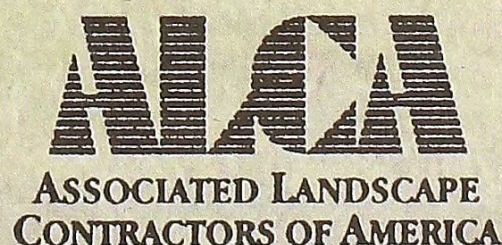
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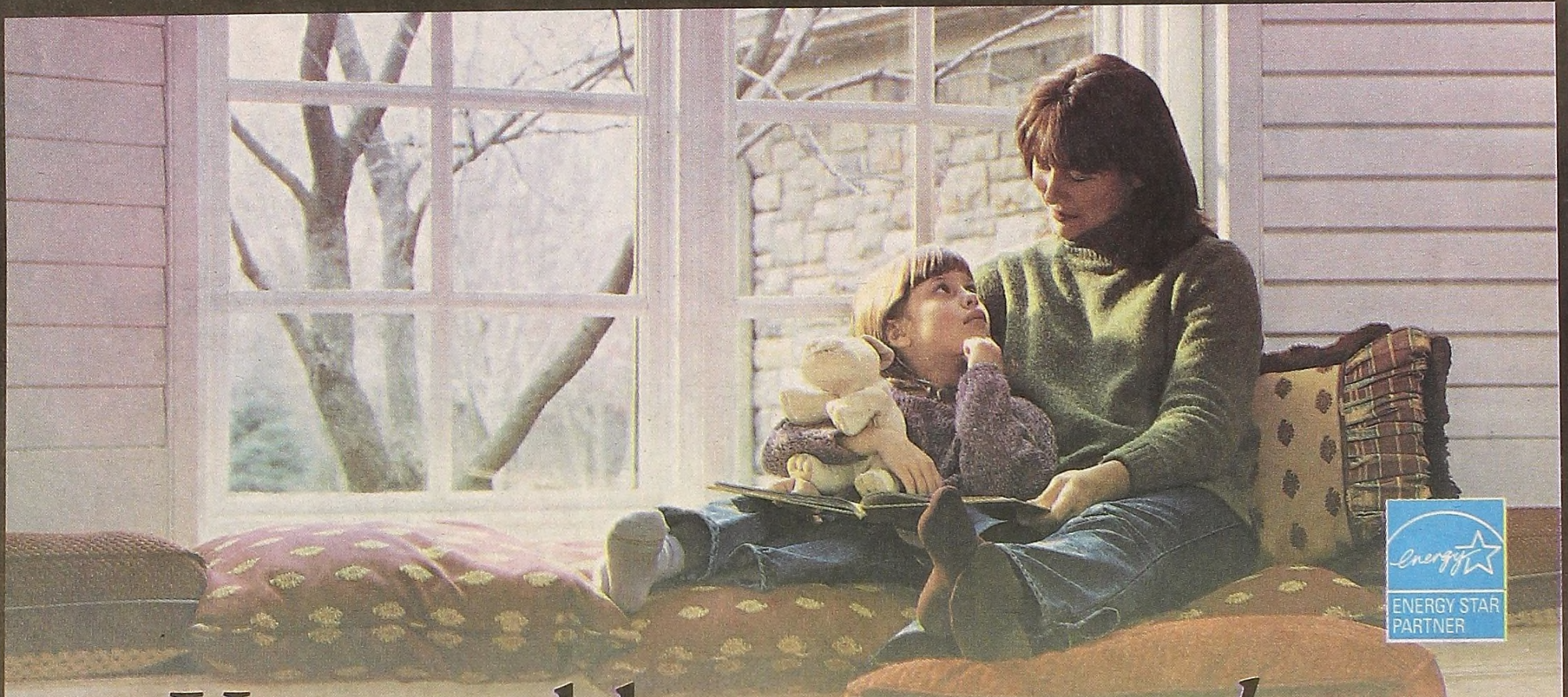
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VIEWED TO BE THE BEST.®

Homes

FROM PAGE 8

ferent things so you can create a lot of different textures," McKnight said.

The fourth home is a golf-lovers dream. Virtually every window on the home overlooks the Northville Hills Golf Course, and two decks take the homeowners even closer to the action. The lower level is an entertainer's dream, with a home theater,

a game room, a bar and kitchen. Throughout the home soothing golds, greens and reds reflect a Persian influence. Janet Glenn will convert this home into a holiday centerpiece.

The newest home on the tour is only a year old, but filled with Mediterranean and Tuscan touches. A sunroom filled with natural light would fit in just as well overlooking a sparkling sea. Karen Slack of Traditions of Northville will decorate the home, Peters said.

"(Her) unique style of holiday

decorating has always been a favorite on the home tour," Peters said.

Decorators and homeowners said they take part in the home tour for a variety of reasons.

"Any aspect of giving back to the community is a good thing," McKnight said.

Kristie Chura of Home Accessory Warehouse, agreed. Everything on display in the home they decorate will be available at their shop but seeing it in

See Homes, page 12



David McKnight of Emerald City Designs has been working on one of the home tour houses. He has nearly completed the banisters which are covered in ribbons, green and ornaments.



McKnight used candles, lights, ribbon and greenery to dress up this kitchen for holiday guests and tour visitors.

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Homes

FROM PAGE 11

a home offers a different perspective.

"It's fun to see it all come together," Chura said. "When it's out in a home, it looks different than it does at the store."

Donna Goldsmith, who owns the waterfront home, said the whole project is a lot of fun. She learned about the home tour a year ago and wanted to take part.

"I'm looking forward to seeing what it looks like when all the ideas come together," she said.

"We're all kind of experiencing it for the first time. It's a lot of fun."

Tickets for the home tour are on sale now. They are \$18 in advance and \$22 at the door, but Peters said advance purchases are recommended because the event always sells out. Tickets can be purchased at: Traditions, Changing Seasons, Gardenviews, Community Financial, Main Street Bank and at the Chamber of Commerce office in Northville; In Livonia at French's Flowers on Five Mile Road and in Walled Lake at the Home Accessory Warehouse. They can also be ordered at the foundation office by calling (248) 374-0200.



Decorators have taken advantage of the opportunity to be as original and creative as possible in the homes on tour. A headboard on a bed has been transformed into a decorative focal point in one home.



Light fixtures, too, have become holiday decorations in the homes on tour. Decorators have liberally used greens, festive ribbons and ornaments to transform everyday items into holiday centerpieces and focal points.



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IMIELOWSKI, Andrew
Andrew F. Imielowski, 26, of Romulus, died Oct. 10.
Among his survivors are his parents, Romand and Monica (Szupics) Imielowski; sisters, Jovita Rouin of Taylor and Patricia Imielowski of Belleville, and two nieces, Samantha and Kayla.
Mr. Imielowski was a graduate of Eastern Michigan University. He was a Computer Assisted Design designer with Troy Manufacturing and also worked as a manager at Woodlands Golf Course.
Funeral services were at St. Aloysius Catholic Church with Father Festus Ejimadu officiating.
Interment was at Romulus Cemetery.

PYCH, Thaddeus
Thaddeus E. "Ted" Pych, Jr., 51, of Sumpter Township, formerly of Saline, died Oct. 14.
Among his survivors are his father, Thaddeus Edward Pych, Sr. of Grand Rapids; a brother, Mark Pych of California, and dear friends, Bruce Kowalczewski and Dan O'Brien of Pinckney and Roger Katakowski of Chelsea.
Mr. Pych retired from the General Motors Willow Run plant in August after more than 30 years.
Funeral services were at the David C. Brown Funeral Home with Father John Hedges officiating.
Cremation rites were accorded.

JAHN, Patricia
Patricia Jean Jahn, 61, of Van Buren Township died Oct. 19.
Among her survivors are her husband, Jeffrey L. Jahn; sons, Jeffrey Stephen (Rika) Jahn of California and James Thurston Jahn of Virginia; her parents, James Merle Callison and Ruth Vivian Craig, and brothers, James Craig (Phyllis)

Callison of Illinois and Charles (Susan) Callison of Wisconsin.
Funeral services were at the David C. Brown Funeral Home with Father John R. Hagan officiating.
Cremation rites were accorded.

MURRAY, Ramona
Ramon B. Murray, 64, of Van Buren Township, died Oct. 21.
Among her survivors are her daughter, Leah (Ernie Beckman) Murray of Belleville; two sons; a dear friend and caregiver Linda Adorjan of Canton Township; her mother, Lottie (Smolen) Sinkiewicz of Florida; sisters, Teena Henderson and Debbie Culp, both of Florida; a brother, Raymond Sinkiewicz of Belleville; two grandchildren, and a great-grandchild. She is also survived by several nieces and nephews.
Mrs. Murray grew up in Romulus and moved to Belleville where she attended St. Anthony Catholic Church, where her funeral took place.
She retired from Ford Motor Co after 32 years of service. Mrs. Murray was an avid supporter of PETA and the Humane Society.
Interment was at Michigan Memorial Park in Flat Rock.
Arrangements were entrusted to the David C. Brown Funeral Home in Belleville.

CHIE, Elizabeth
Elizabeth Mary Chie, 86, of Okemos, formerly of Belleville, died Oct. 21.
Among her survivors are her children, Dennis J. (Judith) Chie of Eastpointe and Sandra L. (Arthur) Vine of Okemos; a sister, Irene Pulay of Ohio; granddaughters, Heather Clark of Belleville, Vanessa Diegel of Minnesota, Sarah Pryer of Okemos and Charlotte Vine of Haslett, and

11 great-grandchildren.
Mrs. Chie was a member of First United Methodist Church in Belleville and was a member of Heart of Michigan Decorative Artist Club.
Funeral services were at the David C. Brown Funeral Home in Belleville with Pastor Robert J. White officiating.
Interment was at Alban Cemetery in Ypsilanti Township.

WILLIAMS, Terry
Terry S. Williams, 96, of Sumpter Township, died Oct. 23.
Among his survivors are his children, Terry Montie Williams of Chicago, IL; Brenda Williams of Belleville, Ted C. "TC." (Debra) Williams of Ypsilanti, Michael "Mickey" Williams and Brenda Reina, both of Belleville; special friends, the Wallman and Januszyk families; seven grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren.
Mrs. Williams founded and retired from the Sumpter Township Police Department as chief after more than 30 years.
Funeral services were at the David C. Brown Funeral Home.
Interment will be at United Memorial Gardens in Plymouth.

SUMMER, Emmett
Emmett Lee Summer, 82, a 42-year resident of Van Buren Township, died Oct. 26.
Among his survivors are his wife, Erma (Sutcliffe) Summer; a son, Alan Lee (Lori) Summer of Belleville, and sisters, Josephine O'Brien of Ypsilanti, Faye Summer of Tecumseh and Dolly Summer of Ypsilanti.
Mr. Summer retired from American Airlines in 1986. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II.
He was a member of First United Methodist Church in Belleville.

Cremation rites were accorded.
Arrangements were entrusted to the David C. Brown Funeral Home in Belleville.

SHAFFER, Ilene
Ilene S. Shaffer, 77, of Romulus, died Oct. 30.
Among her survivors are her sons, Al Cichowski and Jerry (Sue) Chichowski, all of Romulus, Randy Cichowski and Tim (Betty) Chichowski, all of Taylor and William (Cindy) Cichowski of Westland; a stepson, David (Estella) Shaffer of Louisiana; a stepdaughter, Vicki (John) Adams, of Howell; 20 grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren, and a special friend, Louie Glistorf.
Funeral services for Mrs. Shaffer were at St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church where she was a member and sang in the choir. She was also formerly a member of the Ladies Aide Society.
The Rev. D. Lee Cullen, Jr. officiated at the services.
Interment was at Huron Valley Cemetery in Flat Rock.
Arrangements were entrusted to the Crane Funeral Home in Romulus.

LEMONS, NaKita
NaKita Faith Lemons, the 2½ month-old daughter of Milton and Lori Lemons of Wayne died Oct. 11.
In addition to her parents, the infant is survived by siblings, Jessica and Milton Jr.; grandparents, Steven and Pan VanMeter and Beatrice and Eric Gathers; great-grandparents, Jim and Mary Brown, and many aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.
Funeral services were at the First Congregational Church with the Rev. Rob Joy officiating.
Arrangements were entrusted to the Harry J. Will Funeral Home in Wayne.

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CLASSIFIED

01. Obituaries
02. In Memoriam
03. Cards of Thanks
04. Monuments
& Cemetery Plots
05. Announcements
06. Death Notices
07. Attorneys
08. Entertainment
09. Lost & Found
10. Coming Events
30. Help Wanted

31. Help Wanted Sales
32. Help Wanted Drivers
33. Child Care
34. Specialized Services
35. Situations Wanted
40. Business Opportunity
42. Pawn Shops
43. Money to Loan
44. Music/Art Lessons
45. Private Tutoring
46. Private Instruction
47. Riding/Horses/Stables

50. Pets & Supplies
54. Rummage Sales
55. Estate Sales
56. Flea Markets
57. Antiques
58. Garage and Yard Sales
59. Auctions
60. Misc. Sales
61. Misc. Items
62. Building Supplies
63. Business and Office Equipment

64. Lawn & Garden Supplies
65. Tree Service
66. Landscape / Nurseries
67. Garden Plant / Supplies
68. Garden / Produce
70. Masonry / Brickwork
72. Machinery Tools
73. Musical Merchandise
74. Sporting Goods
75. Boats / Accessories
76. Remodeling & Renovations
77. Recreation Vehicles

78. Hunting / Fishing
82. Wanted to Buy
87. Room for Rent
88. Duplexes for Rent
89. Apartments for Rent
90. Condos/Townhouses for Rent
92. Business Places for Rent
93. Banquet Halls
94. Farm Land for Rent
95. Garages for Rent
96. Houses for Rent
97. Cottages for Rent

98. Mobile Homes for Rent
99. Flats for Rent
100. Will Share
101. Wanted to Rent
102. Storage
103. Business Property for Sale
104. Farms & Acreage for Sale
105. Mobile Homes for Sale
106. Houses for Sale
107. Condos/Townhouses for Sale
108. Lake and Resort
109. Income Property

110. Lots for Sale
111. Out of State Property
112. Commercial Lease
113. Real Estate Wanted
114. Auto Accessories
115. Autos for Sale
116. Antique & Classic Cars
117. Trucks & Vans for Sale
118. Freebies
119. Auto Repairs
120. Motorcycles
121. Autos Wanted

9. Lost & Found

Lost Cat
Gray & White, no collar
City of Plymouth
On or near Ann St.
Missing since 10/29
Call 734-455-0283 with any info.

30. Help Wanted

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company.
Must be organized and
able to perform multi tasks
independently or as a
team player when needed.
Knowledge of foreign
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59. Auctions

Notice is hereby given
that on 11/17/05 at
1:30pm, the following will
be sold by competitive
bidding at:
**The Storoom Self
Storage**
40600 Michigan Avenue.
Canton, MI:

Unit 726-Virginia Wrone
8 Household furnishings
60 Misc. boxes/bags
12 Hand tools
1 Power tool
20 Other misc. items

Unit 203B-James Finch
16 Misc. boxes/bags
4 Toys
1 Recreational equip.
4 Other misc. items

Unit 934-Angela R. Scott
5 Misc. small appliances,
2 TVs, 5 Hand tools
4 Household furnishings
6 Misc. household goods
30 Misc. boxes/bags
2 Recreation equip.
12 Other misc. items

Unit 844-Thomas Boyd
1 Misc. small appliance
10 Household furnishings
8 Misc. household goods
15 Misc. boxes/bags
8 Hand tools
2 Lawn care equip.
6 Other misc. items

Unit 225-Latoya Jones
1 Household furnishings
4 Office equipment
2 Other misc. items
1 Piano

Notice is hereby given
that on 11/16/05 at 1:00PM
the following will be sold
by competitive bidding at:

Stor-N-Lock
7840 N. Wayne Rd.
Westland, MI

Unit N-27 Ryan Cousino:
1 Misc. Small Appliance, 3
Misc. Household Goods
6 Misc. boxes/bags
5 Recreation equipment
4 Other Misc. Items

Unit O-23B Michelle Martin
1 TV, 4 Hand Tools
1 Foosball Table

7 Household furnishings,
20 Misc. boxes/bags, 1
Lawn Care equipment
7 Other Misc. Items

Unit D-1112 David Moton
1 Washer, 1 Dryer
1 Refrigerator, 2 Misc.
Small Appliances,
3 Household furnishings
20 Misc. boxes/bags
5 Hand Tools, 1 Power
Tool, 2 Recreation
equipment

Unit P-7E Rhawnie C.
Cullen
16 Misc. boxes/bags

Unit J-24 Priscilla Crawford
10 Household furnishings,
6 Misc. Household goods
20 Misc. boxes/bags
5 Toys 10 Other Misc. Items

Unit G-16 Delishunda
Reeves
1 Misc. Small Appliance, 3
TVs, 5 Toys, 1 Household
furnishing, 2 Misc.
Household goods
12 Misc. boxes/bags
1 Recreation equipment
5 Other Misc. Items

CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

On NOVEMBER 8, 2005
the Westland Police
Department will conduct
public auctions of
impounded abandoned
vehicles. The first auction
will begin promptly at
11:00am at Westland Car
Care, 6375 Hix Rd.,
Westland, MI, County of
Wayne, where the
following vehicles will be
offered for sale to the
highest bidder:

1977 Dodge Motorhome
White
F44CF7V067283

Honda Motorcycle
Burgundy
CL3504025921

1986 Buick Century
4 Dr Blue
1G4AH35X8GD438414

1978 Porsche 924
2 Dr Yellow
9248207226

1988 Pontiac 6000
4 Dr Brown
1G2AF51R4JT230478

All vehicles are sold in "as
is" condition. Bidding on
all vehicles will start at the
amount due for towing and
storage. Vehicles may be
deleted from this list at any
time prior to the start of
the auction.

30 DAY NOTICE OF
AUCTION
Due to unknown
ownership, 30 day notice
is hereby given that the
vehicles listed below will
be auctioned after
DECEMBER 3, 2005
unless they are claimed by
the owner prior to that
time:

1971 Buick Apollo
2 Dr Blue
4B17HSN114137

2001 Ford XZ2
2 Dr Silver
3FAFP11321R110009

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STORAGE**
1600 Newburgh Road
Westland, MI 48186
734-729-1710

Will be holding an auction
on
Nov. 19, 2005
(call for time)
for the following units:

Unit #201 & 220
Owner-Lisa King
Contents-Furniture,
Freezer, misc. boxes

Unit #410
Owner-David Wood
Contents-2 TVs, Furniture,
washer,
Misc. boxes

Unit #522
Owner-Jamie Zarzecki
Contents-Tools, grill,
Computer, washer, Misc.
boxes

Unit #627
Owner-Ralonda Wiggins
Contents-Bedset, TV,
Cabinet, misc. boxes

Unit #825
Owner-Bradley Maloney
Contents-Sofa bed, Dining
set, VCR,
Misc. boxes

61. Misc. Items

Cherry 7-pc.
Bedroom Suite
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original boxes
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Full size Orthopedic
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Never Used
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734-367-3029

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\$665/mon. plus sec.
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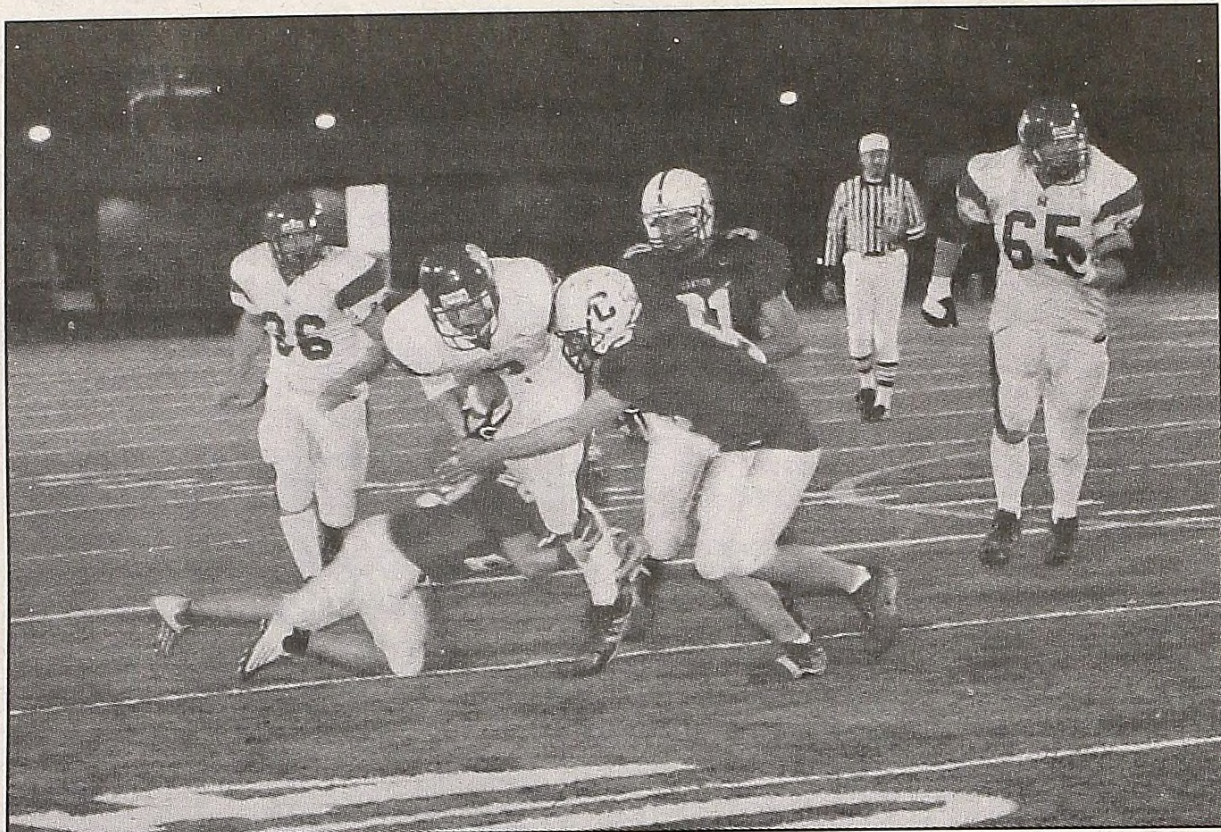
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SPORTS



The Canton Chiefs' defense slowed Monroe up enough to capture a 42-34 Division 1 district playoff victory on Friday.

Chiefs overcome deficit, defeat Monroe

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

Nobody said it would be easy. And it definitely wasn't a simple task for the Canton Chiefs' gridders when they faced off against the Monroe Trojans in the first round of Division 1 district playoffs last Friday night.

Maybe it was the three flocks of geese that flew through the twilight sky in a symbolic V-formation above the P-CEP varsity football stadium two minutes before game time—an apparition of victory.

Perhaps it was the mighty Wing-T offense that has devastated teams the last several years or the game plan set up by the Canton coaching staff, led by Head Coach Tim Baechler.

Or maybe, just maybe, it was the group of kids that played their hearts and souls out, not wanting to lose.

Whatever it was, it worked.

The Chiefs came back from a large deficit for the second time in three weeks to win their sixth consecutive first-round playoff game, 42-34.

Not a single pass was thrown or punt kicked on Canton's part. Nope, it was all up to the mighty ground attack that thrashed the Trojans for more than 400 yards in the contest.

Junior half back Deshon McClendon led the way, grinding out 255 yards on 20 attempts. He found the end zone three times on runs of 12, 45 and 21 yards. And when he wasn't bashing through the middle or bouncing to the right side, senior running back Matt Sweda either busted through middle or took it to the left side for 115 yards on seven carries. Sweda also found pay dirt three times against Monroe, including a 13-yard jaunt that gave the Chiefs their first lead of the game, 21-20, with 1:47 left in the first half.

"He had a great game," Baechler said of Sweda. "He brings a load. He's a fast kid—he's

a 4.6 in the 40 kid—and he knows how to finish. He's playing like a senior.

"Deshon is just incredible," he added about McClendon. "I wish I can take credit for it. The only thing I'll take credit for is telling him where to go. You can't coach the stuff that kid is doing."

It wasn't his offense that Baechler was concerned about—it was Monroe's. The Trojans run the same Wing-T offense as Canton, which was what concerned Baechler in the week prior to the showdown.

"That Wing-T," he said, laughing. "They run the same Wing-T

“
*Deshon is just incredible.
I wish I can take credit
for it. The only thing
I'll take credit for
is telling him where to go.
You can't coach the
stuff that kid is doing.*
”

down there.

"They've been averaging 30-something points a game and just watching them—we just had to slow them down, make them punt twice and we might have a chance," he added. "Their defense was young, like ours, so we thought we could move the ball and score. I didn't know we would score that many but luckily we made enough plays on defense in the second half and our offense controlled the game."

Monroe's offense proved to be as potent—at least in the first half. Before anyone realized it, Monroe had a 20-7 lead at the end of the first quarter.

The Trojans got things rolling when their junior quarterback Audie Cole scored on an eighty-yard keeper to give his team a 7-0 lead after senior Matt Gray made

the extra point attempt.

Canton responded on their first possession when Sweda broke free for an 18-yard touchdown run. Junior Colin O'Shaughnessy kicked the point-after to knot the game, 7-7. A little trickery on Monroe's part put the Trojans up, 13-7.

Monroe was pinned inside their 5-yard line on fourth down with 13 yards to go. Junior Brandyn Harris fumbled the punt snap, scooped it up and converted the first down on a 21-yard scamper. The drive continued and Harris, also a running back, finished the nine-play drive with a 55-yard run for a score.

With 38 seconds left in the first, Monroe's senior JohnTae Player recovered a Canton fumble on the Chiefs' 25. On their first play Cole connected with senior wideout Joel Mcelvany. The score and extra point made it a 20-7 game.

McClendon capped off a nine-play drive, which lapsed over into the second quarter, with a 12-yard scamper into the end zone. That cut Monroe's lead to 20-14.

Monroe's next drive was stalled by Canton's defense at the Chiefs' 35-yard line. On fourth down, Monroe failed to complete a pass on a fake punt attempt. That turned the ball over on downs, giving the Chiefs' offense another chance to score before the end of the half.

They made good on the opportunity. Sweda scored from 10 yards out to give the Chiefs a 21-20 lead. Monroe didn't put up a threat in the final 1:47 and time ran out in the half.

Canton extended their lead when McClendon busted loose for a 45-yard score. O'Shaughnessy's kick gave the Chiefs a 28-20 advantage.

Monroe's potent offense continued to move the ball. With about 6:15 to go in the third, Cole connected with Mcelvany for a 35-

See **Chiefs**, page 17

Vikings win first ever playoff game

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

The Inkster Vikings football squad has only made it to the playoffs once in the school's history. They have never won a playoff game.

That all changed when the 7-2 Vikings hosted a 6-3 Rochester Hills Lutheran Northwest High School in the first round of the state's district playoffs on Saturday.

Inkster shoved history aside for a day and rewrote a page of it when they won their first ever district playoff game, 42-20.

They even did it without two of their starting offensive players—quarterback Anre Goree and wide receiver Renty Rollins. Both missed the game due to violating some "in-house" rules, according to Inkster Coach Greg Carter.

Sophomore Derek Coker stepped in as the signal caller, finishing 4-for-9 for 83 yards through the air for two touchdowns. He rushed for 87 yards on nine carries, too.

"Derek did a great job in his first game ever playing quarterback," Carter said. "Every week he plays quarterback on the scout team so we knew what kind of ability he had."

"I knew he was going to be a little nervous in the beginning but he played as good as we could have expected," he added. "He made some big plays to keep drives going. He's just a smart kid. He called a lot of plays on his own. But you have to give a lot of credit to the offensive line. Those boys did a great job."

It was running back Troy

Singleton that got things rolling for the Vikings, though. He finished off their first possession, a 10-play, 60-yard drive, with a four-yard run into the end zone. Inkster failed to convert their two-point conversion attempt, but they took an early 6-0 lead with about eight minutes to go in the first.

The Crusaders showed what they were made off on the first play of their opening drive. Running back Stephen Johnston broke through Inkster's front line for a 61-yard run down to the Vikes' 5-yard line. It looked like Inkster's defense was going to hold them strong, but on a fourth-and-goal play from the 3, Johnston made it in for the touchdown. Bobby Dziatzak booted the extra point through the uprights for a 7-6 lead.

Inkster's next drive consisted of 12 plays, including a Coker touchdown pass that was called back on a penalty. Four plays and three penalties later, Inkster turned the ball over on downs, giving the Crusaders a chance to extend their lead.

But Inkster's defense has played big all season and they held Rochester Hills to a three-and-out series, forcing them to punt from their 20-yard line.

On the Vikings' first play of the new drive, Coker hit Felix Kizer for a 48-yard touchdown. Then, on the two-point conversion attempt, Coker avoided two tackles in the backfield—spinning and bouncing outside the left hash marks—and threw a strike to DeMarko Williams to make it a 14-7 game.

See **Vikes**, page 17



Conquered

Inkster's Michelle Carr and the rest of the undefeated Mega Red Lady Vikings trounced the Romulus Lady Eagles, 89-56, last Thursday. For the complete story visit www.journalgroup.com. Also see full stories about Belleville and Northville basketball.

SPORTS

Vikes

FROM PAGE 16

That play provided a spark that carried the team the rest of the way.

Inkster's Javier Reed intercepted a Josh Schurig pass, which set up Singleton's second touchdown of the day. This one was from about two yards out to make it a 20-7 game at about the 10:23 mark of the second.

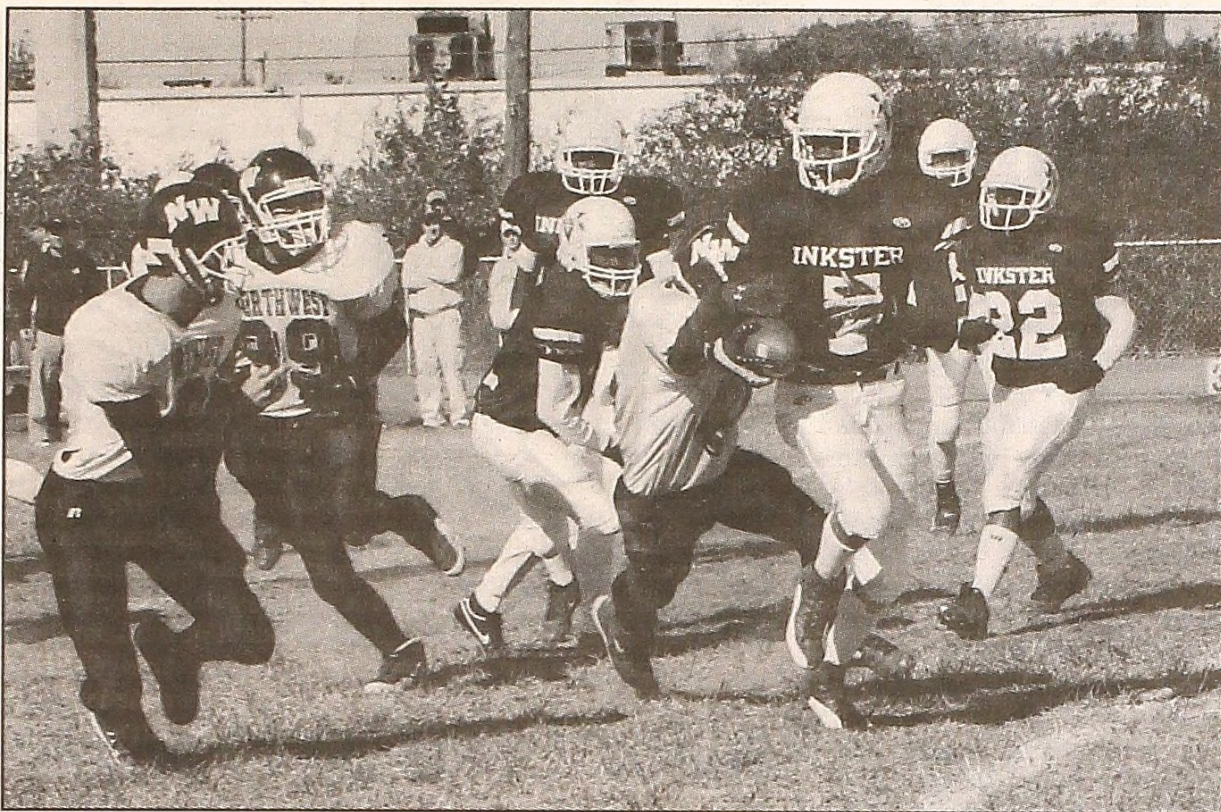
Rochester then put together a 14-play drive that Reed ended with his second pick. That interception led to Coker finding J J Snelling for a 20-yard touchdown strike. Singleton ran in the two-point conversion, giving Inkster a 28-7 lead with 1:44 remaining in the half.

"We wanted to shut them out early and take the heart out of them," Reed said. "I just tried to be in the right place at the right time."

Inkster's defense kept attacking. As time expired, Joe Agee found himself in the right place at the right time, recording Inkster's third consecutive interception in the game. He returned it 70 yards for a touchdown, giving Inkster a commanding 35-7 lead after Snelling kicked the extra point.

The Crusaders cut into the lead when Johnston broke free for a 49-yard scamper to the end zone. Dziatczak kicked the extra point for a 35-14 game.

Inkster answered when



Inkster receiver Felix Kizer escapes a tackle in the Vikings', 42-20, district playoff victory against Rochester Hills Lutheran Northwest on Saturday. It was Inkster's first playoff win in school history.

Singleton punched in another—his third. Snelling's kick was good, putting the Vikings up, 42-14.

Rochester Hills capped off the contest with the final score, making it 42-20 with less than a minute remaining on the clock. Inkster ran the 58 ticks off for their first ever playoff victory.

Singleton finished the day with 167 yards on 18 carries.

Carter said this was a good outing for both offense and defense—something they have striven for all season.

"When we play offense and

defense on the same day we can be a real good team and we're starting to do that," he said. "So, hopefully good things are on the horizon for us as far as playing football on both sides of the ball."

"I knew they were good but I didn't know the backs were as good as they were but they were very good backs," he added about the crusaders. "I think that first long run was a wake-up call that we better start playing some defense. After that we didn't really do anything differently, we just tried to do it better."

The excitement of the day was

evident in Coker's eyes after the victory. He successfully made it through his baptism of fire with flying colors, thanks to the o-line, he said.

"Everyone's been real excited because this school hasn't been to the playoffs in a real long time," Coker said.

"The offensive line was number-one for me today. I'm glad they backed me up. We talked about it all week in practice. We practiced on it and practiced fast speed, game speed. All week we practiced hard and we all did well."

Chiefs

FROM PAGE 16

yard score. Then sophomore full-back Jordan Raiford converted the two points and tied the game at 28.

While Canton's defense kept Monroe in check the rest of the way, the offense scored twice more for the win. McClendon scored on a 21 yard run and Sweda finished off the Chief's scoring with a 44-yard score.

Monroe scored a late touchdown when Cole found senior Cody Raymond for a 24-yard score, making it 42-34.

Canton recovered Monroe's on-side kick attempt and ran the clock out for the win.

"Everyone is pulling from the same rope," Sweda said. "Everyone played 100 percent. There's no stopping us when we go. I came out, did my ritual before the game and came out and did the same thing I do every week."

Sweda's pre-game ritual consists of going to the same party store every week, purchasing an Arizona iced tea, taking the same route to school and drinking up the iced tea while getting his ankles taped—all while trying to stay relaxed.

That proves that Canton is a bunch of kids willing to play their hearts out and do whatever it takes to win.

Canton will host Detroit Cody at 7 p.m. tomorrow for the district championship.

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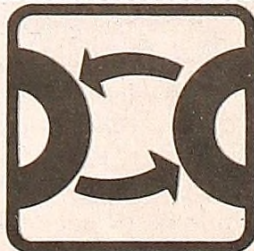
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SPORTS

Salem shares in conference title

Salem basketball, with a 10-game win streak to back up their momentum, secured a share of the Western Lakes conference title with a 44-25 victory against Wayne Memorial last Thursday.

The win tied the Lady Rocks with Plymouth High at 10-1 for first place in the conference.

Salem Coach Fred Thomann said that everybody had a chance to play and score in the game against Wayne.

Junior Teresa Coppiellie led the group with a team-high 11 points and 10 rebounds. The Lady Rocks led 8-5 at the end of one and added to the lead, 18-9, at the half. After the break Salem took a 28-15 advantage before finishing off the Lady Zebras, 44-25.

"We worked through it and everybody got quality minutes," Thomann said. "We wanted to get this one in the bag and get ready for the conference tournament this week."

LaDwan Jones netted 14 for Wayne.

In order to capture a piece of the Western Lakes title, Salem had to first defeat Plymouth who was alone at the top of the conference, which they did 44-42.

All season long Plymouth's post players Jeanine Moise and Kim Olech have dominated most teams they had faced.

But before the game Thomann said Plymouth needed to watch out for his team's inside game.

In the two team's first two meetings Plymouth didn't allow either player double-digit points. The Rocks almost did it again this third time. They held Moise to just two points but Olech squeaked out 11 to lead the Lady Wildcats.

"We played them straight up—player to player," Thomann said. "This was the first time that Plymouth had a post player in double digits."

Plymouth led, 10-8, at the end of the first session. Salem came back in the second and out-scored the Lady 'Cats, 12-9, to take a one-point lead, 20-19, at halftime.

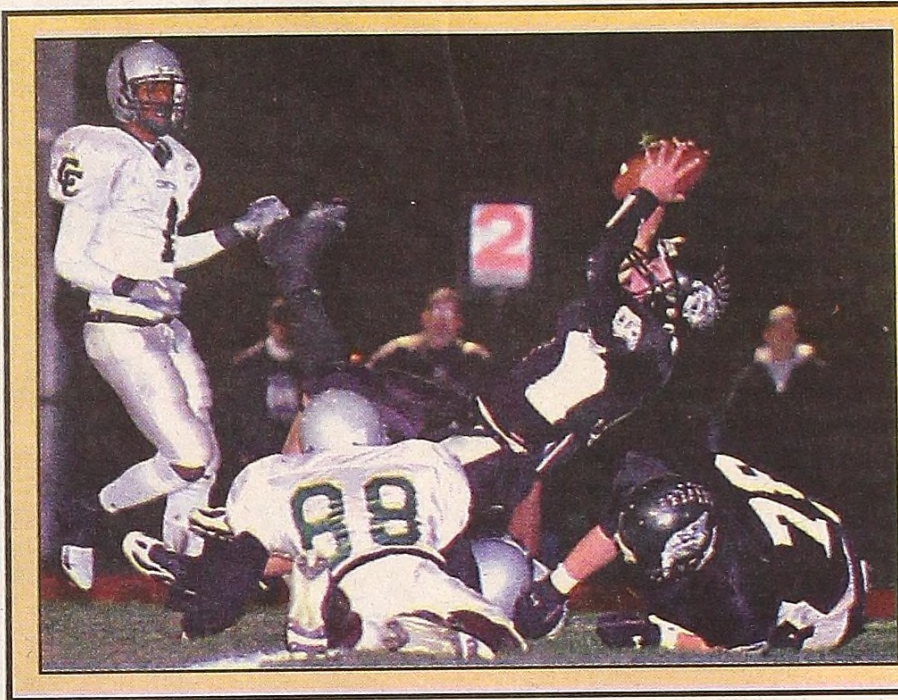
The third resulted in a 29-26 lead for the Rocks. Salem held them off the rest of the way for the win and its share of the title.

"Plymouth never took the lead again after the first," Thomann said. "We never had more than a five-point lead, though."

Coppiellie led the team again with 19.

Plymouth defeated Northville, 41-37, on Thursday to stay in contention for the conference.

Since the Rocks defeated Plymouth head-to-head they earned the No. 1 seed in the tournament this week.



Wildcats come up short in playoff debut

Plymouth quarterback and captain Brent Jones dives in for a touchdown in the Wildcats' 34-28 overtime district playoff loss to Detroit Cody on Friday. Find entire story at www.journal-group.com. Photo by Andy Rubenstein

Canton holds on to 3rd in conference

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

Canton Coach Brian Samulski said he liked what he saw against Northern's defense.

"They were running the same defense that we had problems with against Northville last week," he said. "It was nice to see us handle it better this time. We moved the ball much better this time."

Senior forward Lisa Ealy led the Chiefs with 16 points. Junior guard Ja'nee Morton netted 14 and Leslie Olech scored eight with eight rebounds. Junior point guard Becci Houdek was solid with four points, four assists and five rebounds.

"Although Becci hasn't been scoring a lot doesn't mean she's

not contributing," Samulski said. "She moves the ball well and controls the way that game flows and the tempo of the game. She's a really important part of the team."

Canton was 46 percent from the field when they defeated Livonia Stevenson, 50-24, two days prior.

Morton and Ealy led the team with 10 points each. Junior point guard Becci Houdek added five points and recorded six assists, four rebounds and six steals.

In the second round of the Western Lakes Conference Tournament, Canton will play the winner of the Plymouth-Walled Lake Northern game on Thursday.

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FOOD

Time for tradition Thanksgiving dinner 'requires' pumpkin pie

My mother used to tell me that being prepared and organized would make for a happier, more fulfilling life.

Of course, this is the same woman who told me that washing dishes would make my nails grow, pushing the lawnmower would increase the size of my bosom and being outside when the streetlights went on would give me acne.

I, of course, during my pubescent years, believed every word the woman said. Her unique style of child rearing was based on one simple tenet—lie. Tell the kid whatever it takes to get her to do what you want.

It worked for more years than I like to admit.

And, it rubbed off. When all else failed, despite my vows to never, never, never stoop to such tactics with my own children, well, I confess that when all else failed, I convinced my boys that raking leaves was the only way to six-pack abs and that girls loved any fella who knew how to iron. My youngest son still reminds me of the whopper I told him about picking raspberries clearing up his skin. I also told them that pushing the lawnmower would pump up their biceps almost overnight. And, it did work. My sons battled over doing the yard work until their friends, laughing like baboons, explained that ole mom had conned them, again.

But my mother was right about being prepared. And, believe it or not, it is time to get prepared for holiday cooking. Yep. The holidays are looming in the very near future. Doubters need only visit any mall or department store. It's time to begin to think about Thanksgiving dinner.

And for it to really be Thanksgiving, we all know that there has to be pumpkin pie. Even if we don't eat it, it has to be there. It is some kind of unwritten law of humankind, "There Shall Be No Thanksgiving Dinner Without Pumpkin Pie." I think it's in the book of Betty Crocker, Chapter Four, Verse 73.

At any rate, there are some tasty pumpkin pie recipes that are quick and easy (easier) using several prepared products that can be recommended without any guilt whatsoever.

They make wonderful homemade desserts, are terrific leftovers and can always be sent home with dinner guests for later enjoyment.

(Oh, and don't think my sons didn't get even. One of them told me that spending long periods of time with my grandchildren on a weekly basis was the only true way to bond with them. The other convinced me that I was the only person in the world who could properly starch and iron his police uniform. That one worked until his wife started sending her stuff, too.)

Libby's Famous Pumpkin Pie

(For 75 years, this has been the favorite American pumpkin pie recipe and it is still one of the very best.)

- 2 eggs, slightly beaten
- 1 16-ounce can Libby's Solid Pack Pumpkin
- ¾ cup sugar
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- ½ teaspoon ginger
- ¼ teaspoon cloves
- 1 ½ cups (12-ounce can) undiluted Carnation Evaporated Milk

1 9-inch unbaked pie shell with high fluted edge (if frozen, thaw for 10 minutes then pinch edge so that it stands ½ inch above rim of pan) or use ready to bake prepared pie crusts available in the dairy case.

Mix filling ingredients in order given. Pour into pie shell. (If using regular frozen pie shells, recipe

fills two.)
Bake on cookie sheet in preheated 425-degree

oven for 15 minutes. Reduce temperature to 350 degrees and continue baking for 45-50 minutes (30 minutes if making two pies), until knife inserted in center comes out clean. Cool. Garnish with whipped cream. Makes one 9-inch pie.

Crunchy Pecan Topping

In a small bowl, mix 1 cup coarsely chopped pecans with 2/3 cup firmly packed light brown sugar. Drizzle with 3 Tablespoons melted butter or margarine; stir until uniformly moistened. Sprinkle over completely cooled pumpkin pie. Broil about 5 inches from heat for 1 to 2 minutes until topping is bubbly. Serve while warm. Or, let cool, then garnish with whipped cream.

Pumpkin Chiffon Pie

- 1 envelope Knox Unflavored Gelatine
- ¾ cup brown sugar
- ½ teaspoon salt
- ½ teaspoon nutmeg
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 3 eggs, separated
- ¾ cup milk
- 1 16-ounce can pumpkin
- ¼ cup sugar
- 9-inch baked pastry shell

In medium saucepan, mix gelatine, brown sugar, salt and spices; blend in egg yolks beaten with milk. Let stand 1 minute. Stir over low heat until gelatine is completely dissolved, about 8 minutes. Blend in pumpkin. Pour into large bowl and chill, stirring occasionally, until mixture mounds slightly when dropped from spoon. In medium bowl, beat egg whites until soft peaks form; gradually add sugar and beat until stiff. Fold into gelatine mixture. Turn into prepared crust and chill until firm. Garnish with whipped cream.

No Bake Pumpkin Pie

(This recipe was one of the winners from 80,000 entries in a 1931 cooking contest sponsored by the Borden Co.)

- 1 envelope Knox Unflavored Gelatine
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- ½ teaspoon ground ginger
- ½ teaspoon ground nutmeg
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 1 14-ounce can Eagle Brand Sweetened Condensed Milk (NOT evaporated milk)
- 2 eggs, well beaten
- 1 16-ounce can pumpkin (about 2 cups)
- 1 graham cracker or butter flavored Ready Crust pie shell

In heavy medium saucepan, combine unflavored gelatine, cinnamon, ginger, nutmeg and salt; stir in condensed milk and eggs. Mix well. Let stand 1 minute. Over low (LOW) heat, cook and stir constantly until gelatine dissolves and mixture thickens slightly, about 10 minutes. Remove from heat. Stir in pumpkin; mix well. Pour into prepared crust. Chill 3 hours or until set. Garnish with whipped cream.

Special potato salad satisfies

When I'm cooking for guests at my home, many of them ask for a filling side dish.



Now serving

by Frank Agostini

They always seem to want a main course and then something to stick to their ribs and fill them up in addition to the main meal. I usually prepare some sort of potato dish, or even a sweeter vegetable. Then, I finally came across the idea of a side potato salad, which has been a huge hit both with my family and our guests.

The Roasted Potato Salad is easy to make, and will go well with any meat-based meal or simply as a snack or side dish. It's delicious and surprisingly, only contains 6.4 grams of fat and 202 calories per serving.

Roasted Potato Salad

- 2 pounds small red potatoes, quarter-cut
- 1 Tablespoon extra-virgin olive oil, divided
- ½ teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
- 1 cup finely chopped bell peppers
- ½ cup thinly sliced green onions
- ¼ cup chopped fresh cilantro
- 2 Tablespoons minced seeded jalapeno pepper (about 1 full pepper)
- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- ½ teaspoon ground cumin
- 1/8 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
- ¾ cup shaved parmesan cheese (3 ounces)

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Place potatoes in a 13 x9-inch baking dish. Drizzle with 1 teaspoon oil, sprinkle with ¼ teaspoon salt and 1/8 teaspoon black pepper. Toss well to coat. Cover and bake at 375 for 30 minutes. Uncover and bake an additional 30 minutes or until potatoes are tender, stirring occasionally. Remove from oven; place potatoes in a large bowl. Add bell peppers and onions, cilantro, jalapeno pepper, oregano and garlic. Toss well to combine. Combine remaining 2 teaspoons oil, remaining ¼ teaspoon salt, cumin and 1/8 teaspoon black pepper, stirring with a whisk. Drizzle dressing over potato mixture and toss gently to coat. Sprinkle with cheese. Makes 6, 2/3 cup servings.

This salad is best when served warm or at room temperature. It complements lightly seasoned beef or chicken and also is great served with a non-spicy vegetable. The salad itself will kick up the meal as the cumin, cilantro and jalapeno spices give it a Latin flair.

Enjoy.



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